

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the four paragraphs in the Summary of the Invention as amended in the Amendment Under Rule 111 Filed With A Request For Continued Examination filed on October 25, 2004 ("the October 24, 2004 Amendment") as follows:

A method for optimizing the maintenance of assets and production comprising:

a) acquiring at least one maintenance trigger indicative that a maintenance action is or may be required for at least one of the assets;

b) in response to the acquired at least one maintenance trigger defining in real time a maintenance schedule for the maintenance action; and

c) transmitting in response to the defined maintenance schedule a request to a system that schedules production for a period of time in a production schedule to perform said maintenance action.

A method for optimizing the maintenance of assets and production comprising:

a) acquiring at least one maintenance trigger indicative that a maintenance action is or may be required for at least one of the assets;

b) in response to the acquired at least one maintenance trigger requesting in real time response to the at least one maintenance trigger a period of time in a production schedule to perform the maintenance action; and

c) determining by use of a predetermined criteria related to the production and in response to the request for the period of time in the production schedule to perform the maintenance action a time for performance of the maintenance action.

A system for optimizing the maintenance of assets and production comprising:

a) a maintenance scheduling system responsive to at least one maintenance trigger indicative that a maintenance action is

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or may be required for at least one of the assets to define in real time a maintenance schedule for the maintenance action; and

b) a system for scheduling production of at least a certain quantity of a certain product; and

c) means responsive to the defined maintenance schedule received from maintenance scheduling system for transmitting a ~~blocking request~~ to the production scheduling system a request for a period of time in a production schedule to perform the maintenance action.

A system for optimizing the maintenance of assets and production comprising:

a) a system for scheduling production of at least a certain quantity of a certain product;

b) a maintenance scheduling system responsive to at least one maintenance trigger indicative that a maintenance action is or may be required for at least one of the assets to generate in real time a request for a period of time in the production scheduling system to perform the maintenance action; and

c) means responsive to the request for the period of time to perform the maintenance action in the production scheduling system for determining by use of a predetermined criteria related to the production and the time to perform the maintenance action a time for performance of the maintenance action and transmitting the time for performance of the maintenance action to the production scheduling system.